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Executive Registry

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21 OCT 1976

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76-5447

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : William W. Wells  
Deputy Director for Operations

VIA : Deputy Director for Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Proposed Guidelines for Dealing with  
Congressional Oversight Committees  
Regarding Foreign Liaison

*ACTION: para 2*

1. Pursuant to my conversation with you on 18 October 1976, I attach the proposed guidelines for providing information on foreign intelligence and security services, and, to a limited extent, on our liaison with them to the Senate Select Committee and other Congressional oversight committees. As you know, these were developed as a result of my conversation with Bill Miller of the Select Committee on 15 October. Bill Miller has informally concurred in the attached guidelines, which incorporate a few minor changes suggested by him.

2. Bill Miller will arrange for you to meet with Chairman Inouye at your earliest mutual convenience to discuss these guidelines. I recommend that you approve them for our internal use pending the outcome of that discussion.

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25X1A

William W. Wells

CONCUR:

E. H. Knoche  
DDCI

26 OCT 1976

*DCI - Bill Miller has already alerted Inouye to the nature of these guidelines and Inouye, according to Miller, had no problem with them.*

APPROVAL

DCI

1 NOV 1976

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Guidelines for Providing Information  
to Congressional Oversight Committees on  
Foreign Intelligence and Security Services

These guidelines take into account the fact that foreign intelligence and security services, when acting in connection with the Agency's official liaison with them, constitute both a source and a method and thus require the statutory protection accorded any other intelligence source or method. The guidelines also recognize that the duly constituted oversight bodies of the Congress have expressed an interest in such services and in the general scope, nature and extent of the Agency's relationships with them. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a workable formula for achieving these objectives, recognizing the respective obligations of both the Congress and the Agency.

The Agency is prepared to provide, upon specific request, appropriately classified information to oversight committees on the following aspects of foreign intelligence and security services:

- a. The identification of the governments with whose services CIA has liaison arrangements;
- b. Agency man hours and funds devoted to liaison with foreign services;
- c. In the case of SIGINT liaison, further details on such arrangements, including the scope of

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funds and equipment provided to such foreign services;

d. Information on such services, including their objectives, key personnel, strength, budget and methods of operation, provided that such data will be drawn from open sources or penetrations and not from the details of liaison arrangements with the services themselves;

e. Where relevant, foreign intelligence reports based on liaison with such services.

The Agency will not make available to the oversight committees the details of liaison arrangements with foreign services, information on sources and methods of such services obtained through liaison or jointly controlled sources, or other information which would reveal Agency sources or methods or violate the trust on which these official liaison relationships is necessarily based.

In the event of substantial allegations of improper activities conducted by foreign intelligence or security services with which the Agency is presumed to maintain liaison, every effort will be made to provide all relevant facts which bear on such allegations. Where this would involve departure from the above guidelines, the Director will be prepared to meet with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the committee to seek a satisfactory resolution of such problems.

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